

Appln. No. Serial No. 10/815,493

Amdt. Dated 5/24/05

First Response in Appln, Reply to Office Action of 1/24/2005

Page 4 of 5

REMARKS

Claim 4 is pending in this application. The Examiner rejected Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Claim 4 has been amended in the foregoing amendment. No fees are believed due; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 11-0855.

Claim 4 Is Definite

The Examiner rejected Claim 4 as indefinite. Applicant has amended Claim 4 to clarify the invention. Accordingly, amended Claim 4 is definite.

Claim 4 Is Not Anticipated by Sugiyama

The Examiner rejected Claim 4 as anticipated by JP10-4653 ("Sugiyama"). Applicant traverses this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

The method of producing a plane carbon commutator of amended Claim 4 requires burning a carbon base having engaging projections on a first side and an opposite second side at a high temperature; forming cut-rising pieces projecting inwardly from peripheral edges of engaging holes formed in a metal base; forming peripheral faces of the engaging projections into coarse faces using the cut-rising pieces by inserting the engaging projections into the engaging holes with pressure sufficient to form coarse faces on the peripheral faces as the engaging projections are inserted into the engaging holes to integrally form the carbon base and the metal base; coating the exposed portions of the carbon base with mold resin; cutting the metal base into a plurality of segments and at the same time, cutting the carbon base; and removing the mold resin from a portion of the second side of the carbon base.

Sugiyama describes that the engaging projections 17P are inserted into the engaging holes 15H, as shown in Fig. 7(A). After the engaging projections are inserted, then the cut-rising pieces 21 are formed using the tool 19, as shown in Fig. 7(B) (paragraph [0022]). Sugiyama fails to describe forming cut-rising pieces in a metal base prior to

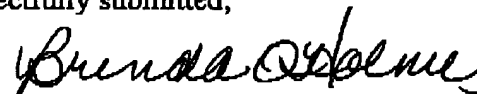
Appln. No. Serial No. 10/815,493
Amdt. Dated 5/24/05
First Response in Appln, Reply to Office Action of 1/24/2005
Page 5 of 5

insertion and thus fails to describe that the cut-rising pieces form coarse faces on the peripheral faces of the engaging projections as the engaging projections are inserted into the engaging holes, as required by amended Claim 4. Accordingly, amended Claim 4 is not anticipated by Sugiyama and should be allowed.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a complete response to the Office Action identified above. This application should now be in condition for allowance, and the Applicants solicit a notice to that effect. If there are any issues that can be addressed via telephone, the Examiner is asked to contact the undersigned at 404.685.6799.

Respectfully submitted,



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